

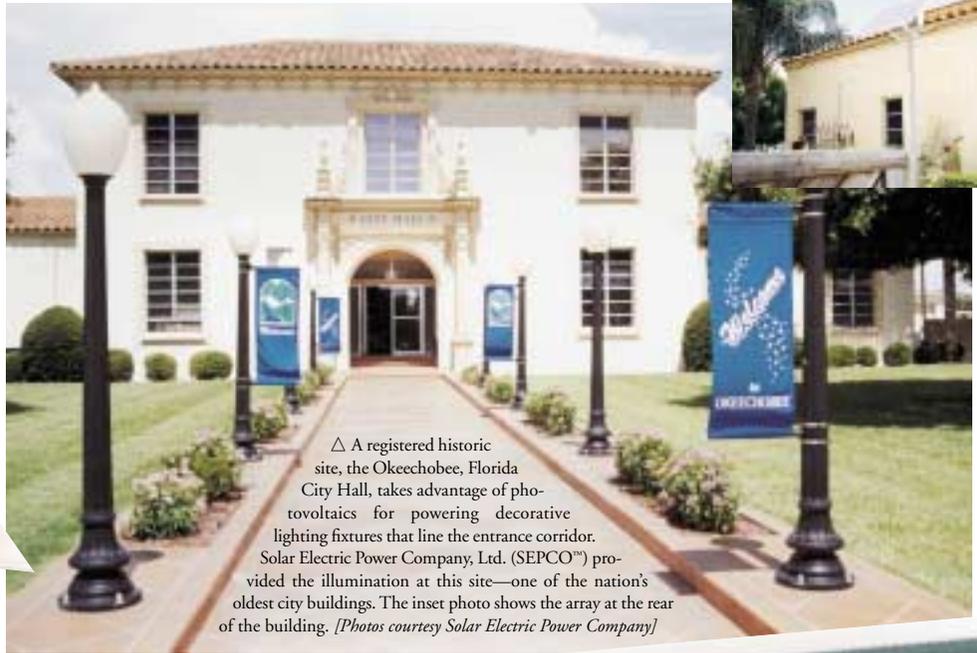
In many cases PV systems can provide light for a fraction of what it would cost to extend a utility line. Indeed, PV systems are powering lights around the world.

The most efficient systems use fluorescent lamps, but other types of lamps, such as halogen or low-pressure sodium, have also been used in conjunction with PV. Batteries are always a component of PV-powered lighting systems, so that power is created when the sun shines, stored in the battery, and enjoyed when the sun has ceased to shine.

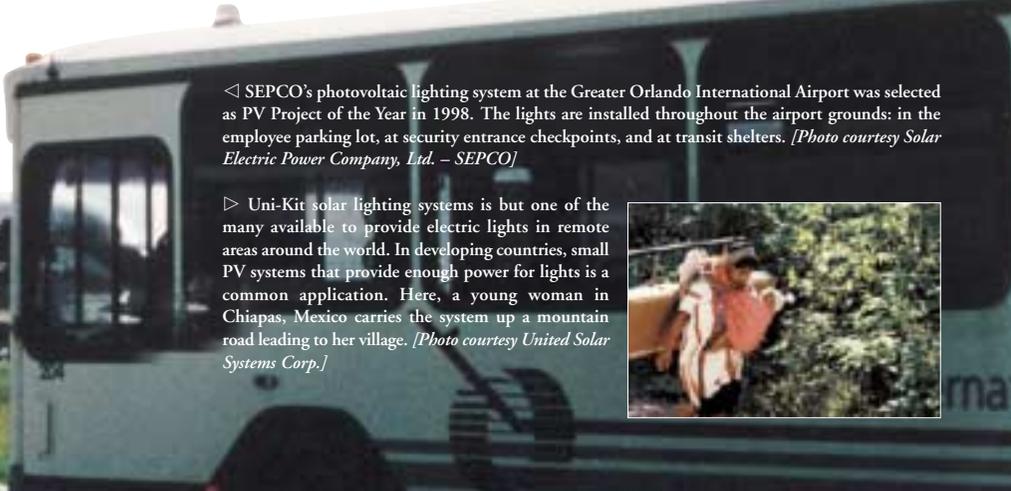
If a homeowner decides that a single pole-mounted security light fits the bill for a dark corner of his property—and an electric line is nowhere around—then PV is the perfect solution.

But illumination for its own sake isn't the whole story. Studies show that lights in developing countries mean a longer, more productive work day and a community drawn closer together.

Pre-packaged systems at affordable prices from numerous dealers means no one need remain in the dark.



△ A registered historic site, the Okeechobee, Florida City Hall, takes advantage of photovoltaics for powering decorative lighting fixtures that line the entrance corridor. Solar Electric Power Company, Ltd. (SEPCO™) provided the illumination at this site—one of the nation's oldest city buildings. The inset photo shows the array at the rear of the building. [Photos courtesy Solar Electric Power Company]



◁ SEPCO's photovoltaic lighting system at the Greater Orlando International Airport was selected as PV Project of the Year in 1998. The lights are installed throughout the airport grounds: in the employee parking lot, at security entrance checkpoints, and at transit shelters. [Photo courtesy Solar Electric Power Company, Ltd. – SEPCO]

▷ Uni-Kit solar lighting systems is but one of the many available to provide electric lights in remote areas around the world. In developing countries, small PV systems that provide enough power for lights is a common application. Here, a young woman in Chiapas, Mexico carries the system up a mountain road leading to her village. [Photo courtesy United Solar Systems Corp.]





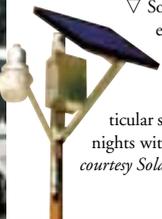
▽ A large GSA parking facility outside the federal building and court house in Puerto Rico, takes advantage of two 64W PV arrays for lighting. The installation, provided by Solar Outdoor Lighting, Inc., is a combination of single and double fixtures, using a total of 23 lights to cover an area approximately 980 by 640 feet. [Photo courtesy Solar Outdoor Lighting, Inc.]



△ The City of Cocoa Beach, Florida, is lighted with Solar Electric Power Company systems. The City uses PV lighting for their entrance signs, which power energy-efficient neon tubes for dazzling brightness. [Photo courtesy Solar Electric Power Company, Ltd. – SEPCO]



◁ The North Carolina Department of Transportation uses PV-powered lighting at its park and ride lot in Raleigh. This is a fairly common and truly appropriate use of photovoltaics. [Photo courtesy North Carolina Solar Center]



▽ Solar Outdoor Lighting provides a solar powered Rural Area Light (shown here) that has been used many times to light livestock pens, barns, or any other 'dark' areas at ranching and farming locations. This particular system is designed to operate five consecutive nights without sunlight. Panels are by Solarex. [Photo courtesy Solar Outdoor Lighting]